



CROSIER FATHERS AND BROTHERS

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February 28, 2018

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman
Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Nanci Langley
Commissioner Mark Acton
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year, so if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

Our whole life is given in service to the Church and society. We Crosiers are a religious Order of priests and brothers who actively **serve the needs of a variety of people through our work in educational programs, jail ministry, immigration services, veterans ministry, aid to Native Americans, rural life programs and elder care services.** We also support the poorest of the poor through our missionary efforts in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Indonesia and Brazil.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will be devastating for our organization, forcing us to **reduce services to those who already feel forgotten by society.** Nonprofit religious organizations play a crucial role in the **balance within society**, filling in the gaps where other agencies are unable to provide programs and services.

Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,

Fr. Zawadi Sambya, osc
Associate for Development